

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|   |   |                         |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| In re application of:   | : |                         |
| Valerie FAVIER ET AL.   | : | Examiner:               |
|   | : |                         |
| Serial No.: To be assigned  | : | Group Art Unit:         |
|   | : |                         |
| Filed: December 21, 2000  | : | Corres. To FR 99/16118  |
|   | : | Filed December 21, 1999 |
| For: Procédé et dispositif de configuration de<br>pare-feu dans un système informatique |   |                         |
|   |   | McLean, Virginia        |

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is filed contemporaneously with the filing of the subject application. Please amend the claims of the application as indicated below without prejudice in order to be able to reintroduce the subject matter in translated claims.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 4, line 1, delete "l'une des revendications 1 à 3" and replace with --revendication 1--.

Claim 5, line 1, delete "l'une des revendications 1 à 4" and replace with --revendication 1--.

Claim 6, lines 1 and 2, delete "l'une des revendications 1 à 5" and replace with --revendication 1--.

Claim 9, line1, delete "l'une des revendications 7 ou 8" and replace with --revendication 7--.

Claim 10, lines 1 and 2, delete "l'une des revendications 1 à 5"  
and replace with --revendication 1--.

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is made, without prejudice, to  
avoid and remove improper multiple dependency of the claims and the extra  
expense associated therewith. Upon translation of the application, the  
dependent claims will be reintroduced as singly dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.

Date December 21, 2000

By: 

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